

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 09895 01 OF 02 300301Z

ACTION IO-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNDP, TCDC, EAID

SUBJECT: 25TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL - TCDC WRAP-UP
(ITEM 14)

REF: GENEVA 8929

1. SUMMARY: THE GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (TCDC) CONCLUDED ITS WORK WITH A DECISION NOTABLE FOR ITS RESTRAINT IN REGARD TO INSTITUTIONALIZING TCDC IN ADVANCE OF THE CONFERENCE IN THE FALL. AFTER CONSIDERABLE DEBATE, THE VIEWS OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES PREVAILED. THERE WERE EXPRESSIONS FROM SOME LDC'S, MOSTLY FROM LATIN AMERICA, CONCERNING THE OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE WERE ALLEGED INTRANSIGENCE ON THE PART OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO BE CONTINUED AT BUENOS AIRES. A PRIVATE LUNCHEON OF DEVELOPED COUNTRY DELEGATES CONCERNED WITH TCDC REVEALED A CONTINUED POLICY OF RESTRAINT IN REGARD TO THE REWRITTEN DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION AND THE ANTICIPATED LEVEL OF NATIONAL REPRESENTATION. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING EXTENSIVE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON A DECISION COVERING THE VARIOUS REPORTS
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 09895 01 OF 02 300301Z

AND SUBJECTS DEBATED DURING THE FORMAL MEETINGS OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. WHEN PRESENTED FOR ADOPTION JUNE 22, THE DRAFT DECISION ONCE MORE ENGENDERED A LIVELY DEBATE INITIATED BY PAKISTAN AND CARRIED FORWARD BY LATIN AMERICAN DELEGATIONS INCLUDING THOSE OF ARGENTINIA, BRAZIL, COLOMBIA AND MEXICO. THIS SECOND AND

UNEXPECTED DEBATE COVERED THE SAME GROUND AND RESULTED IN NO CHANGES IN THE AGREED TEXT.

3. HOWEVER, SEVERAL DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED ANXIETY, THAT WHAT WAS VIEWED BY THEM AS INTRANSIGENCE AND OBSTRUCTIONISM ON THE PART OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WOULD BE CONTINUED DURING THE CONFERENCE ON TCDC AT BUENOS AIRES (AUG 30 - SEPT 12, 1978) TO THE DETRIMENT OF LDC ASPIRATIONS. SPOKESMEN FOR SEVERAL DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WERE AT PAINS TO REASSURE THE LDC'S ON THIS POINT WHILE MAINTAINING THE POSITION THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE SHOULD NOT BE PRE-EMPTED BY PREMATURE ACTION IN THE GOVERNING COUNCIL.

4. SPECIFICALLY, THE DC REPRESENTATIVES INSISTED ON LIMITING THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL OFFICER TO THE TCDC SPECIAL UNIT BY ANY RELEVANT DECISION WHICH WOULD BE TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE (SEE PARAGRAPH 4 OF TEXT BELOW). FURTHER, THE AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE THE TCDC SESSIONAL COMMITTEE IN ORDER TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GA RESOLUTION ON TCDC AND TO RESPOND TO PERTINENT TASKS ACQUIRED THROUGH THE CONFERENCE FALLS SHORT OF ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT OPEN-MEMBERSHIP BODY TO MONITOR TCDC AS SUGGESTED BY CONFERENCE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL CHIDZERO.

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 09895 01 OF 02 300301Z

5. THE SWISS DELEGATE HOSTED A LUNCHEON FOR INTERESTED COUNTRIES TO REVIEW INFORMALLY (AND IN GENERAL TERMS) A PRELIMINARY RE-DRAFT OF THE PLAN OF ACTION (COPY POUCHED TO GLAZER, IO/DHP). THE PARTICIPANTS (CANADA, FINLAND, FRG, NETHERLANDS AND US) AGREED THAT THE NEW EFFORT REPRESENTED A SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT OVER THE DRAFT PRESENTED TO THE 3RD PREPARATORY COMMITTEE IN MAY 1978' NEVERTHELESS, THERE WAS A CONSENSUS AGAINST INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF TCDC, SPECIAL FUNDING, AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL MONITORING BODY. RESERVATIONS WERE ALSO EXPRESSED INTER ALIA CONCERNING UNTYING DC BILATERAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF EXPERTS, CONTRACTORS, SUPPLIERS, ETC. FROM LDC'S. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT NATIONAL REPRESENTATION AT THE BUENOS AIRES CONFERENCE WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL AS HAS LONG BEEN URGED AND RECENTLY REITERATED BY UNDP ADMINISTRATOR AND CONFERENCE SECRETARY GENERAL BRADFORD MORSE.

6. THE DECISION ON TCDC WAS ADOPTED IN PLENARY WITHOUT DEBATE ON JUNE 27. TEXT FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: THE GOVERNING COUNCIL,
RECALLING GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 32/182 AS WELL AS S
OTHER PERTINENT RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
1. TAKES NOTE OF THE REPORTS SUBMITTED BY THE ADMINI-
STRATOR AND BY PARTICIPATING AND EXECUTING AGENCIES AND
REGIONAL COMMISSIONS ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOP-
ING COUNTRIES CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT DP/317 AND ADD. 1
AND DP/309, VOLS. I-XIII;

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 09895 02 OF 02 300301Z
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2. TAKES NOTE OF THE INTRODUCTORY STATEMENTS MADE
BY THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
AND OF THE OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS MADE DURING
THE CONSIDERATION OF THE ITEM;

3. REQUESTS THE ADMINISTRATOR, PARTICIPATING AND
EXECUTING AGENCIES AND REGIONAL COMMISSIONS TO CONTINUE
VIGOROUSLY TO IMPLEMENT GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION
32/182;

4. DECIDES, AS AN INTERIM MEASURE, BETWEEN 1 OCTOBER
1978 AND ITS NEXT SESSION, TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRA-
TOR TO FUND FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET OF UNDP
AN ADDITONAL POST AT THE LEVEL OF P.4 FOR THE PERIOD
OF NINE MONTHS IN THE SPECIAL UNIT FOR TCDC, PROVIDED
THERE IS AGREEMENT AT THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
THAT THE REQUIREMENT FOR THIS POST CONTINUES AFTER
THE CONFERENCE;

5. REQUESTS THE ADMINISTRATOR, PARTICIPATING AND
EXECUTING AGENCIES AND REGIONAL COMMISSIONS TO SUBMIT
IN THE FUTURE TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL A JOINT PROGRESS
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 09895 02 OF 02 300301Z

REPORT ON TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES WHICH SHOULD BE CO-ORDINATED AND ANALYTICAL
AND SHOULD, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, CONTAIN QUANTITATIVE
TABLES AND/OR INDICES REFLECTING THE PROGRESS MADE.

6. DECIDES TO CONTINUE, THROUGH ITS SESSIONAL COMMITTEE
ON TCDC, THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 32/182, IN ADDITION TO
IMPLEMENTING ANY TASKS THAT MAY BE ENTRUSTED TO IT BY
THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TCDC TO BE HELD IN
BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA) FROM 30 AUGUST TO 12 SEPTEMBER
1978 FOR FOLLOWING UP THE DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE.
END TEXT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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